



Document title	Monitoring of situation around Krasny Bor toxic waste landfill
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Background

HOD 50-2016 considered the observations and preliminary conclusions after the study visit to Krasnyi Bor toxic wastes dumpsite presented by CCB ([document 4-26](#)). The meeting pointed out the high importance of comprehensive and regularly updated information on the state of the environment around the landfill as well as on progress and solutions implemented or planned for implementation to prevent environmental risks posed by the site. In its input, CCB pointed i.a. to the following important needs to be accomplished:

- better transparency and openness regarding data on composition and properties of wastes accumulated at the dumpsite, as well on treatment efficiency of the stormwater treatment plant;
- technical solutions under remediation strategy should be based on the above data, as otherwise suggested technologies may fail;
- better communication between the authorities and public should be established in order to release current tension and find most suitable remediation solution;
- public procurement process for the remediation activities should be transparent and allowing interested parties to access procurement documentation in an open manner;
- urgent measures should be developed to allow for safe handling of hazardous toxic wastes in the North-West Federal District of Russia, after closure of Krasnyi Bor dumpsite.

CCB has been monitoring implementation of the tentative action plan presented by Russia at HOD 50-2016 ([document 4-28](#)), as well as its own findings, including those highlighted above and would like to share its observations in this document. Regretfully, many of the needs that CCB pointed to be addressed by the authorities are still pending or ignored.

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to consider the attached information, when discussing the progress with resolving the situation around Krasnyi Bor toxic waste dumpsite.

Monitoring of situation around Krasnyi Bor toxic waste landfill



The following facts were observed by civil society organizations at Krasnyi Bor since June 2016 till now:

1. Landfill's management decided to start covering the pits surface with [pontoons](#) (produced by "[Gidrokor](#)") in order to prevent its watering without decreasing the level of toxic wastes inside the pit. The works began despite the concerns of international (e.g. Finnish) experts on the proposed technology, lack of pre-testing/trials and not respecting due diligence at all. As of 27 September, more than 60% of pit #68 was covered with pontoons.

2. Two new pits were arranged at the site of highly dangerous wastes storage within the landfill, which were immediately filled with contaminated groundwater.

Later on toxic wastes from pits #64, 68 were partly dumped to the new ones, as the level of toxic wastes in pits #64, 68 was already exceeded (see [video](#) made by local activists). Currently federal environmental enforcement body, [Rosprirodnadzor](#), conducts an administrative investigation regarding violations of the environmental legislation on that fact.

3. Oily wastes were dumped from pit #68 to pit #64, that increased a fire hazard of the pit and complicated the process of further collection and reprocessing of wastes.
4. On 26 August illegal discharge of the wastewater from the landfill to the B.Izhorets creek through the opened shutter was witnessed by local activists (see [video](#)). [Rosprirodnadzor](#) started administrative investigation on the case.
5. The Arbitration Court of St. Petersburg and Leningrad Region [rejected](#) Rosprirodnadzor's appeal to cancel Krasnyi Bor's license for reception and handling of toxic waste. According to the activists, under this ruling, the landfill management can formally avoid development of proper landfill's decommission project and hence get around all required by law procedures for environmental expertise/assessments and public hearings.
6. The tender for the repair of pit dikes was won by JSC "Stroykranservis". A [tender](#) for water treatment equipment project development was held, JSC "[RAOPROEKT](#)" (specialised on nuclear materials management) was selected as contractor.



7. Internal canals were cleaned up, in some cases wastewater and contaminated sediments were removed with hands (see [video](#) made by local activists).

8. Management of Krasnyi Bor landfill appealed to the Prosecutor of St. Petersburg and Leningrad Region with a request to conduct investigation against the members of the regional initiative environmental group, as well as some members of the Environmental Council of the Governor of the Leningrad Region. The reason for that was using of drones to check the situation at the landfill. Finally, Prosecutor obliged local activists to eliminate violations, that means a ban for using quadrocopter and getting access to the updated information about landfill condition.
9. The Environmental Committee of St.Petersburg Administration has started regular updates of information on situation with Krasnyi Bor at its website, however cooperation with public is still lacking.